

Heber Public Utility District

REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING DATE: June 17, 2014

FROM: Laura Fischer, General Manager

SUBJECT: Information Only Regarding Non-Profit Organization / Heber Community Foundation

INFORMATION ONLY: Regarding Non-Profit Organization / Heber Community Foundation

BACKGROUND:

At the last HPUD Board meeting, Director Valdez-Belmonte presented information on the importance of recreation programs in our community. The Board was receptive to the idea of providing recreation programs to Heber residents of all ages. Several members of the Zumba class were present and expressed their desire to continue to hold classes in the old HPUD offices.

The County of Imperial has plans to construct a new community center where programs can be held. The Community Center is expected to be completed by the summer of 2015.

After the presentation, there was discussion about starting a non-profit organization to run recreation programs for the community. The discussion resulted in a line item in the HPUD Parks budget to include some legal expenses to start a non-profit, hold some recreation programs, and increase in related expenses.

The idea of approaching the Heber Community Foundation (HCF) Board to see if they would be willing to work with HPUD or perhaps allow HPUD to manage their non-profit. Staff was directed to contact Mr. Jesus Ramirez to see if the HCF Board would entertain some discussion about joining our efforts to increase recreation opportunities.

DISCUSSION:

Director Valdez-Belmonte and I met with Mr. Jesus Ramirez, who is the President of HCF. He was receptive to the idea and we asked if we could continue to meet with him or perhaps set a time when Director Valdez-Belmonte could make a presentation to his Board. He asked when HPUD was meeting and we invited him to the next Board meeting. I told Mr. Ramirez that I would be discussing the non-profit organization with the HPUD Board and if they wanted to continue with the project I would prepare a letter with our formal request.

Just last week I received an e-mail from Mr. Brad Poirez, who is also on the Board. He has several questions and concerns about HPUD's motives. I will forward the e-mail to you for your review and consideration. If HPUD wants to continue to pursue the idea of a non-profit with HCF we will need to schedule meetings with Mr. Poirez and write a formal letter answering his concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Fischer, General Manager